

## SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR MANAGING AND EVALUATING NETWORK COMMODITIES PURCHASING

### Abstract of the Disclosure

5 A method and system for managing and evaluating commodities purchasing  
over a network of distributed computing devices. In one embodiment, the method  
allows a plurality of buyers to generate one request for quote and, response to the  
request for quote, receive a quote from plurality of vendors. The system of the  
present invention provides a price normalization routine that allows buyers to  
10 evaluate and compare a normalized price for commodity products having different  
evaluation parameters. In an arrangement comprising a plurality of computers  
connected to a network said plurality of computers including at least one server, at  
least one buyer client computer and a plurality of seller client computers, the method  
for providing commodities exchange services first provides a web-based browsable  
display describing at least one commodities exchange service. The system then  
15 receives at least one request for quote from the buyer. The system then receives at  
least one quote from different sellers, wherein each quote may have a different price  
and quantity listed. The system then compares to one or more selected metrics and  
normalizes the prices received from the different quotes, thus, allowing the buyer to  
readily compare the prices of a number of commodity items having inherently  
20 different values. In one embodiment, the system of the present invention also  
provides a method for multi-value cross compilation of sales transactions, iterative  
quote information, and metric data for purposes of evaluation and strategy analysis.